

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Masato TAKAHASHI et al.

Application No.: New U.S. Patent Application

Filed: August 6, 2003

Docket No.: 116385

For: SUPPORT DEVICE AND MANUFACTURING METHOD THEREOF, STAGE DEVICE, AND EXPOSURE APPARATUS

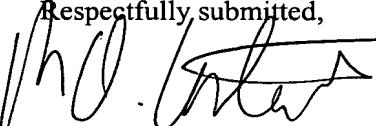
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- 2. Relevance of the non-English language references 5-6 is discussed in the present specification.
- 3. The present application was filed or entered the U.S. National Stage of the PCT after June 30, 2003. In accordance with the June 11, 2003, Notice waiving the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(i), copies of the U.S. patent and patent application publication references are not attached.
- 4. English-language Abstracts of the non-English language references 5-6 are attached hereto.
- 5. Computer-generated English translation of the following Japanese Patent Publications have been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office ([<http://www.jpo.go.jp>]), and are attached, but have not been reviewed for accuracy. See References 5-6.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: August 6, 2003

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Form PTO-1449 (REV. 8-83)			US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 116385		APPLICATION NO. New U.S. Application	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)								
			APPLICANT(S) Masato TAKAHASHI et al.					
			FILING DATE August 6, 2003					
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS								
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME			CLASS	SUB CLASS
	1	US 5,473,410	Dec. 5, 1995	Nishi				
	2	US 5,528,118	Jun. 18, 1996	Lee				
	3	US 5,923,853	Jul. 13, 1999	Danneels				
	4	US 6,327,024 B1	Dec. 4, 2001	Hayashi et al.				
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY			CLASS	SUB CLASS
	5	JP A 5-340444 w/ abst. & transl.	Dec. 21, 1993	Japan				
	6	JP A 8-166043 w/ abst. & transl.	Jun. 25, 1996	Japan				
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)								
EXAMINER						DATE CONSIDERED		
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.								